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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY ~~Easton, Germany~~ Approved For Release 2002/08/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R013800010008-4

TOPIC Finsterwalde Airfield

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EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 17 June to 16 July 1952

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 August 1952

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 6 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The following air activity was observed at Finsterwalde airfield between 17 June and 9 July 1952:

17 June. Individual take-offs and landings were made by jet bombers up to 11 a.m.

18 June. Ten jet bombers were counted at the field. Nine of them were parked in front of the flight control station and hangar 5.

21 June. At 5 a.m., the noise of engines was heard from the field. Three landings and two take-offs were made by DC-3s between 5:20 and 6 a.m. At 4:23 p.m., a jet bomber, apparently painted a dull gray green, took off. After the take-off, the plane retracted its landing gear while the plane was at an altitude of 5 to 10 meters. A twin-engine plane, probably a B-25, and 12 jet bombers were counted at the field between 4 and 4:50 p.m.

2 July. Between 6 and 7 a.m., three DC-3s took off from the field. According to an acquaintance of source, parachute jumps were repeatedly performed over Dabern-Gahro after 4 a.m. recently. (1)

3 July. According to the same informant, a jet bomber towing a sleeve target flew over Finsterwalde at an altitude of 300 to 400 meters between 7 and 8 p.m.

4 July. Between 9 a.m. and noon, jet bombers were flown on local flights with their landing gears retracted.

6 July. About 5 p.m., eight jet bombers were counted at the field.

7 July. Between 7 and 7:10 a.m., at least five jet bombers took off at intervals of 30 to 40 seconds. Between 8 a.m. and noon, there was local flying by aircraft which did not retract their landing gears. Some planes which had their landing gears retracted flew for about 10 minutes.

8 and 9 July. Local flying was practiced by jet bombers. Three DC-3s landed on 9 July between 5 and 6 a.m.

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25X1

25X1A

2. Six guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement on the northern edge of the field. Twelve to 14 tents were located there. (2)
3. The crane which was previously observed on the roof of a hangar was still there on 21 June. On the same roof just west of this crane there was a wooden shed which was about 3 meters square. This shed was made of crude and unpainted boards. The same type shed was on top of the adjoining hangar.

4. According to a locksmith employed at the field, ^{two} three-story houses were erected at the field in late June. The rooms in these buildings were about 10 meters square. A tile stove was set up in each corner of these rooms. Two kitchens were also under construction. They were provided with two 300-liter and two 200-liter boilers. (3) The laborers who worked on these buildings were not allowed to enter the field through the main entrance. They had to go along the outside of the southern section of the field as far as a point in line with their working place.

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5. Between 19 June and 5 July, jet bombers were flown at the field. [redacted] 25X1C
[redacted] (4) About 5 p.m. on 4 July, two jet bombers took off heading toward Cottbus, one towed a sleeve target. The planes returned after 30 to 40 minutes. On 2 July, 12 parachutists were released over the former Gehro airfield from a DC-3 which approached from the direction of Finsterwalde. (1) On 4 July, 12 jet bombers, 1 DC-3 and 2 biplanes were counted at the field.

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6. The following rail shipments arrived at the field:

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17 June. A railroad tank car with fuel arrived [redacted] coming from Velten. The tank car was dispatched from the Leuna Plant in Gross-Korbecha to Finsterwalde via Velten. [redacted] 25X1C

25X1C (5) Twelve empty railroad tank cars arrived [redacted] Ten of them were filled and dispatched to Velten and the remaining two empty cars left for Troeg-litz near Leipzig on 19 June. According to a Soviet soldier, the ten cars were filled with gasoline. Ten cars with coal arrived. Nine of them were destined for the field and one was shunted to the loading track for the consumers' bakery. [redacted] 25X1

18 June. Twenty empty flatcars were shunted to the field. They were loaded with 20 trucks [redacted] and dispatched to Leipzig on 19 June. 25X1C

19 June. A tank car arrived [redacted] coming from Velten. Two 25X1 boxcars loaded with furniture [redacted] arrived at the field. 25X1

20 June. Seven full tank cars from Riesa arrived [redacted] 25X1C The individual cars contained 170, 244, 220, 300, 300, 265 and 180 hecto-liters. A car with ration supplies arrived from Cottbus.

22 June. Five cars with ammunition, [redacted] arrived 25X1 from Torgochin. Two cars with ration supply were dispatched [redacted] coming from Satz Korn. 25X1C

23 June. Two cars with ammunition from Velten arrived at the field. [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] source inferred that the Soviet Army was the con-signee.

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24 June. A full tank car arrived [redacted] coming from Velten.

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29 June. A tank car from Velden arrived [redacted]

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30 June. Fifteen tank cars from Riesa Harbor arrived [redacted] the cars were filled with the following quantities of MB type solvent: 200, 220, 200, 180, 180, 265, 262, 300, 276, 130, 300, 300, 200, 200 and 190 hectoliters.

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Between 1 and 5 July, five cars with timber arrived from Netzeband. (5)

7. On 19 June, source observed that a telephone cable extended from the cabin of the radio installation near Nehesdorf to the field and an electric power cable extended along Dresdener Strasse and Pestalozzi Strasse in Finsterwalde as far as to a house in the middle of Pestalozzi Strasse. This building housed the seat of the local administration, a transformer station and, above the latter, a dwelling. The cable terminated in the transforming station.

8. On 1 July, boards and beams, probably for the construction of a board fence, were trucked to the field. (6)

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9. The following air activity was observed at the field between 30 June and 15 July:

30 June. Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., several jet bombers were flown.

2 July. At 8 a.m., 11 jet bombers were parked in two groups on the landing field. Six of the aircraft had a new metallic sheen, while the remaining five planes were without luster. There was moderate flying activity about noon.

3 July. No flying was observed up to 6 p.m. Shortly after 6 p.m., a jet bomber without luster took off. Shortly afterwards another jet bomber with luster took off. The latter plane towed a sleeve target over the town. Both planes landed about 7 p.m.

5 July. The following take-offs and landings were observed at the field between 9:54 and 11:23 a.m.:

Take-Off	Landing	Aircraft
	9:54 a.m.	1 jet bomber
9:55 a.m.		1 jet bomber
	10:00 a.m.	1 jet bomber
10:01 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber [redacted]
	10:06 a.m.	1 jet bomber
10:07 a.m.		1 jet bomber
10:10 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber

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25X1A

<u>Take-Off</u>	<u>Landing</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	
10:11 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber	25X1C
		2 jet bombers flying in line crossed the field at 10:15 a.m.	
10:25 a.m.		1 type-30 jet bomber	25X1C
		2 jet bombers flying as a unit crossed at 10:29 a.m.; one plane left the formation and landed at the field	
10:31 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber	
	10:33 a.m.	the noise of landing planes was heard	
	10:35 a.m.	the noise of landing planes was heard	25X1C
10:39 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber	
	10:44 a.m.	the noise of landing planes was heard	
	10:51 a.m.	1 jet bomber	
11:14 a.m.		1 type-30 jet bomber	25X1C
11:16 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber	
11:22 a.m.		1 type-30 jet bomber	

8 July. Between 6:30 a.m. and noon, there was local flying by jet bombers. At 12:10 p.m. a twin-engine plane with a nose wheel landed at the field. No air activity was observed in the afternoon.

9 July. There was flying after 8 a.m. in fair weather. At 9:30 a.m. 10 jet bombers were parked on the landing field. At 9:32 a.m., a jet bomber landed and taxied to the 10 planes. At the same time, another jet bomber flew over the field. Between 9:39 and 10:49 a.m., the following take-offs and landings were made:

<u>Take-Off</u>	<u>Landing</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	
9:39 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber	25X1C
9:40 a.m.		1 biplane	
	9:45 a.m.	the noise of landing planes was heard	25X1C
9:49 a.m.		1 type-27 jet bomber	
9:54 a.m.		1 type-27 plane	25X1
	10:02 a.m.	the noise of landing planes was heard	
	10:40 a.m.	the noise of landing planes was heard	
	10:49 a.m.	1 jet bomber	

At 10:49 a.m., 13 jet bombers were parked on the landing field, while a jet bomber crossed over the field.

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25X1A

12 July. Between 8 and 10 a.m., there was local flying by several jet bombers. At 11:30 a.m., 10 jet bombers were parked at the field. Six of the aircraft appeared to be new, while the remaining four were without luster.

13 July. No flying was observed.

14 July. Between 7 and 9 a.m., no air activity was observed.

15 July. After 8 a.m., jet bombers with luster were flown. Between 8:40 and 10:40 a.m., 10 take-offs and 9 landings were made by jet bombers of both types. [redacted]

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(7) At 9:15 a.m., a DC-3 landed at the field. Flying continued until about noon. 16 July. Take-offs were made by 3 jet bombers in rapid succession at 6:38 a.m. and by 1 plane at 6:40 a.m.

10. On 5 July, soldiers were installing poles on the northern edge of the field. On 9 July, a stretch of about 100 meters of the fence was completed near the spur track. The fence was 2 meters high. (6)

11. On 4 July, trucks [redacted] hauled boards and beams for the fence to the field. (6)

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[redacted] Comments.

- (1) The parachute jumps were probably part of the regular training program of the crews of the bomber regiments.
- (2) On 12 June 1952, another source reported that 12 AA guns of about 80-mm were emplaced on the northern edge of the field. See [redacted]
- (3) These new buildings are reported for the first time. Since the buildings apparently are quarters it is believed that they were erected for the AAA unit which recently arrived at the field. [redacted]

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(4)

The assumption that the planes recently arrived is also supported by the fact that after early June up to 14 jet bombers were observed at the field by the reporting sources, while only up to seven planes were observed there prior to the beginning of June. It is possible that the jet bombers were dispatched via Werneuchen, where 12 more than the usual number of planes were temporarily seen. See [redacted]. The exact number of jet bombers stationed at the field cannot be determined because of the many hangars and the difficulties of observation at the field.

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The dispatch of 12 full tank cars to Velten and Troeglitz on 19 June cannot be explained. [redacted] which reportedly is the consignee of two boxcars with furniture, is reported for the first time. The two carloads with ammunition which arrived on 23 June, were probably consigned to the AA unit at the field. The five carloads with timber which arrived between 1 and 5 July were probably required for the fence around the field.

- (6) Previously, Finsterwalde airfield was one of the few fields around which no fence had been erected.

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